Parking space in Delhi

1912. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state whether Government propose to introduce rules that before purchasing a new vehicle, people should inform the authorities whether or not they have adequate parking space to check vehicle density in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): No such proposal is under consideration in this Department.

Bridge on NH-104

†1913. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that construction work on NH-104 in Bihar has been allotted to the concerned agency but the same has not been started so far;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a plan to construct a new bridge at Bhutahi Balan near Laukaha on the said National Highway; and

(c) if so, the details thereof with the time frame set for completion of this bridge near Laukaha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Recently, an estimate of Rs. 34.56 Lakhs has been sanctioned for Consultancy Services for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for improvement of road, major and minor bridges and cross drainage works in km. 161 to km. 214 including high level bridge with approaches across river Bhutahi Balan in km. 194 to km. 195 on NH-104. It is premature to indicate time frame for completion of Bhutahi Balan bridge which is a major bridge in this stretch.

Space programme

1914. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Space Programme is being executed in a cost effective manner and the cost hardly is one third or one fifth of the international standards;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India is the only country using the sophisticated technology for the benefit of common man; and

(c) what were the indirect benefits derived from Indian Space Programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Especially, the development cost of Indian Launch Vehicles (PSLV and GSLV) is about one-third the development cost of corresponding launch vehicles abroad.

(b) India is in a leading position in application of Space technology for the benefit of common man such as identifying zones which could yield ground water for drinking; suitable locations for recharging water; advisories on potential fishing zones for the fishermen; estimating crop areas and yields; assessing deforestation; mapping urban areas for planning purposes; identifying waste lands for development, monitoring the natural resources and environment; cyclone prediction and warning; mapping of flood and cyclone affected areas for planning the relief measures; tele-medicine services to extend specialized medical care for rural/remote areas; tele-education; training and developmental communication and emergency communication systems for disaster management.

(c) The indirect benefits derived from Indian Space Programme include development of Indian Industrial capability for space products and services; application of space technology for commercial exploitation by Indian Industries through technology transfer; creation of critical manpower in strategic technology areas; growth in ground segment industry; human resource development in academic institutions/universities for undertaking space research; International co-operation and enhancing the scientific and technological capability of the country.

Cost and time overruns in central projects

1915. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the status report of 742 central projects in a spectrum of sectors from Railways to Atomic energy shows that 216 projects show cost over-runs and another 269 have time over-runs;